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(54) Title: PLANTS HAVING MUTANT SEQUENCES THAT CONFER ALTERED FATTY ACID PROFILES

(57) Abstract

Seeds, plants and oils are provided having low FDA saturates; high oleic acid; low linoleic acid; high or low palmitic acid; low stearic acid; and low linoleic acid plus linolenic acid; and advantageous functional or nutritional properties. Plants are disclosed that contain a mutation in a delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene. Preferred plants are rapeseed and sunflower plants. Plants carrying such mutant genes have altered fatty acid composition in seeds. In one embodiment, a plant contains a mutation in a region having the conserved motif His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His, found in delta-12 and delta-15 fatty acid desaturases. A preferred motif has the sequence His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His. A preferred mutation in this motif has the amino acid sequence His-Lys-Cys-Gly-His. Nucleic acid fragments are disclosed that comprise a mutant delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene sequence.

PLANTS HAVING MUTANT SEQUENCES THAT CONFER ALTERED FATTY ACID PROFILES

Technical Field

This invention relates to *Brassica* seeds and plants having mutant sequences which confer altered fatty acid profiles on the seed oil. More particularly, the invention relates to mutant delta-12 and delta-15 fatty acid desaturase sequences in such plants which confer such profiles.

Background of the Invention

Diets high in saturated fats increase low density lipoproteins (LDL) which mediate the deposition of cholesterol on blood vessels. High plasma levels of serum cholesterol are closely correlated with atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease (Conner et al., Coronary Heart Disease: Prevention, Complications, and Treatment, pp. 43-64, 1985). By producing oilseed *Brassica* varieties with reduced levels of individual and total saturated fats in the seed oil, oil-based food products which contain less saturated fats can be produced. Such products will benefit public health by reducing the incidence of atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease.

The dietary effects of monounsaturated fats have also been shown to have dramatic effects on health. Oleic acid, the only monounsaturated fat in most edible vegetable oils, lowers LDL as effectively as linoleic acid, but does not affect high density lipoproteins (HDL) levels (Mattson, F.H., J. Am. Diet. Assoc., 89:387-391, 1989; Mensink et al., New England J. Med., 321:436-441, 1989). Oleic acid is at least as effective in lowering plasma cholesterol as a diet low in fat and high in

temperature on the fatty acid composition of oils from several seed crops including rapeseed.

Mutations typically are induced with extremely high doses of radiation and/or chemical mutagens (Gaul, H. Radiation Botany (1964) 4:155-232). High dose levels which exceed LD50, and typically reach LD90, led to maximum achievable mutation rates. In mutation breeding of *Brassica* varieties high levels of chemical mutagens alone or combined with radiation have induced a limited number of fatty acid mutations (Rakow, G.Z. Pflanzenzuchtg (1973) 69:62-82). The low α-linolenic acid mutation derived from the Rakow mutation breeding program did not have direct commercial application because of low seed yield. The first commercial cultivar using the low α-linolenic acid mutation derived in 1973 was released in 1988 as the variety Stellar (Scarth, R. et al., Can. J. Plant Sci. (1988) 68:509-511). Stellar was 20% lower yielding than commercial cultivars at the time of its release.

Canola-quality oilseed *Brassica* varieties with reduced levels of saturated fatty acids in the seed oil could be used to produce food products which promote cardiovascular health. Canola lines which are individually low in palmitic and stearic acid content or low in combination will reduce the levels of saturated fatty acids. Similarly, *Brassica* varieties with increased monounsaturate levels in the seed oil, and products derived from such oil, would improve lipid nutrition. Canola lines which are low in linoleic acid tend to have high oleic acid content, and can be used in the development of varieties having even higher oleic acid content.

Increased palmitic acid content provides a functional improvement in food applications. Oils high in palmitic acid content are particularly useful in the

Summary of the Invention

The present invention comprises canola seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seed, said seeds having a maximum content of FDA saturates of about 5% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said saturates content has been stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds and canola oil having a maximum erucic acid content of about 2%, based upon total extractable oil, are additional aspects of this invention. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having an FDA saturates content of from about 4.2% to about 5.0% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises *Brassica* seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a minimum oleic acid content of about 71% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said oleic acid content has been stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. A further aspect of this invention is such high oleic acid seeds additionally having a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% based upon total extractable oil. Progeny of said seeds; and *Brassica* oil having 1) a minimum oleic acid content of about 71% or 2) a minimum oleic acid content of about 71% and a maximum erucic content of about 2% are also included in this invention. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having an oleic acid content of from about 71.2% to about 78.3% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises canola seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a maximum linoleic acid content

said seeds; and *Brassica* oil having 1) a minimum palmitic acid content of about 9.0%, or 2) a minimum palmitic acid content of about 9.0% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% are also included in this invention. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a palmitic acid content of from about 9.1% to about 11.7% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises *Brassica* seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a maximum stearic acid content of about 1.1% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said acid content is stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds have a canola oil having a maximum stearic acid content of about 1.1% and maximum erucic acid content of about 2%. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds having a palmitic acid content of from about 0.8% to about 1.1% based on total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises *Brassica* seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a sum of linoleic acid content and linolenic acid content of a maximum of about 14% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said acid content is stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds have a canola oil having a sum of linoleic acid content and linolenic acid content of a maximum of about 14% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2%. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds having a sum of linoleic acid content and linolenic acid content

step (c); and (e) identifying those seeds among the progeny that have altered fatty acid composition. Suitable plants are soybean, rapeseed, sunflower, safflower, castor bean and corn. Preferred plants are rapeseed and sunflower.

The invention is also embodied in vegetable oil obtained from plants disclosed herein, which vegetable oil has an altered fatty acid composition.

Brief Description of the Figures

Figure 1 is a histogram showing the frequency distribution of seed oil oleic acid ($C_{18:1}$) content in a segregating population of a Q508 X Westar cross. The bar labeled WSGA 1A represents the $C_{18:1}$ content of the Westar parent. The bar labeled Q508 represents the $C_{18:1}$ content of the Q508 parent.

Description of the Preferred Embodiments

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration defines saturated fatty acids as the sum of lauric ($C_{12:0}$), myristic ($C_{14:0}$), palmitic ($C_{16:0}$) and stearic ($C_{18:0}$) acids. The term "FDA saturates" as used herein means this above-defined sum. Unless total saturate content is specified, the saturated fatty acid values expressed here include only "FDA saturates."

All percent fatty acids herein are percent by weight of the oil of which the fatty acid is a component.

As used herein, a "line" is a group of plants that display little or no genetic variation between individuals for at least one trait. Such lines may be created by several generations of self-pollination and selection, or vegetative propagation from a single parent using tissue or cell culture techniques. As used herein, the term "variety" refers to a line which is used for commercial production.

oil which contains less than 2% erucic acid ($C_{22:1}$), and meal with less than 30 μmol glucosinolates/gram.

Applicants have discovered plants with mutations in a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene. Such plants have useful alterations in the fatty acid compositions of the seed oil. Such mutations confer, for example, an elevated oleic acid content, a decreased, stabilized linoleic acid content, or both elevated oleic acid and decreased, stabilized linoleic acid content.

Applicants have further discovered plants with mutations in a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene. Such plants have useful alterations in the fatty acid composition of the seed oil, e.g., a decreased, stabilized level of α-linolenic acid.

Applicants have further discovered isolated nucleic acid fragments comprising sequences that carry mutations within the coding sequence of delta-12 or delta-15 desaturases. The mutations confer desirable alterations in fatty acid levels in the seed oil of plants carrying such mutations. Delta-12 fatty acid desaturase is also known as omega-6 fatty acid desaturase and is sometimes referred to herein as 12-DES. Delta-15 fatty acid desaturase is also known on omega-3 fatty acid desaturase and is sometimes referred to herein as 15-DES.

A nucleic acid fragment of the invention contains a mutation in a microsomal delta-12 fatty acid desaturase coding sequence or in a microsomal delta-15 fatty acid desaturase coding sequence. Such a mutation renders the resulting desaturase gene product non-functional in plants, relative to the function of the gene product encoded by the wild-type sequence. The non-functionality of the 12-DES gene product can be inferred from the decreased level of reaction product (linoleic acid) and increased level of substrate (oleic acid) in plant tissues expressing the mutant sequence, compared to the

important for gene product activity. It is known in the art that the insertion or deletion of a larger number of contiguous amino acids is more likely to render the gene product non-functional, compared to a smaller number of inserted or deleted amino acids.

Non-conservative amino acid substitutions may replace an amino acid of one class with an amino acid of a different class. Non-conservative substitutions may make a substantial change in the charge or hydrophobicity of the gene product. Non-conservative amino acid substitutions may also make a substantial change in the bulk of the residue side chain, e.g., substituting an alanyl residue for a isoleucyl residue.

Examples of non-conservative substitutions include the substitution of a basic amino acid for a non-polar amino acid, or a polar amino acid for an acidic amino acid. Because there are only 20 amino acids encoded in a gene, substitutions that result in a non-functional gene product may be determined by routine experimentation, incorporating amino acids of a different class in the region of the gene product targeted for mutation.

Preferred mutations are in a region of the nucleic acid having an amino acid sequence motif that is conserved among delta-12 fatty acid desaturases or delta-15 fatty acid desaturases, such as a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His motif (Tables 1-3). An example of a suitable region has a conserved HECGH motif that is found, for example, in nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 105 to 109 of the *Arabidopsis* and *Brassica* delta-12 desaturase sequences, in nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 101 to 105 of the soybean delta-12 desaturase sequence and in nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 111 to 115 of the maize delta-12 desaturase sequence. See e.g., WO 94/115116; Okuley et al., Plant Cell 6:147-158 (1994). The one letter amino acid designations used herein are

Physiol., 105:635-641 (1994); Okuley, J., et al., supra; and Yadav, N. et al., supra.

Another region suitable for a mutation in a delta-12 desaturase sequence contains the motif KYLNNP at nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 171 to 175 of the *Brassica* desaturase sequence. An illustrative example of a mutation is this region is a Leu to His substitution, resulting in the amino acid sequence (Table 4) KYHNN (Compare wild-type SEQ ID NO:6 to mutant SEQ ID NO:8).

TABLE 1

Alignment of Amino Acid Sequences from Microsomal Delta-12 Fatty Acid Desaturases

Species	Position	Amino Acid Sequence
Arabidopsis thaliana	100-129	IWVIAHECGH HAFSDYQWLD DTVGLIFHSF
Glycine max	96-125	VWVIAHECGH HAFSKYQWVD DVVGLTLHST
Zea mays	106-135	VWVIAHECGH HAFSDYSLLD DVVGLVLHSS
Ricinus communis[a]	1- 29	WVMAHDCGH HAFSDYQLLD DVVGLILHSC
Brassica napus D	100-128	VWVIAHECGH HAFSDYQWLD DTVGLIFHS
Brassica napus F	100-128	VWVIAHECGH HAFSDYQWLD DTVGLIFHS

[a] from plasmid pRF2-1C

TABLE 2

Alignment of Amino Acid Sequences from Microsomal Delta-12 Fatty Acid Desaturases

Species	Position	Amino Acid Sequence
Arabidopsis thaliana	130-158	LLVPYFSWKY SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
Glycine max	126-154	LLVPYFSWKI SHRRHHSNTG SLDRDEVFV
Zea mays	136-164	LMVPYFSWKY SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
Ricinus communis[a]	30- 58	LLVPYFSWKH SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
Brassica napus D	130-158	LLVPYFSWKY SHRSHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
Brassica napus F	130-158	LLVPYFSWKY SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV

[a] from plasmid pRF2-1C

TABLE 6

Alignment of Conserved Amino Acids from Plastid and Microsomal Delta-15 Fatty Acid Desaturases

Species	Position	Amino Acid Sequence
A. thaliana[a]	188-216	ILVPYHGWRI SHRTHHQNHG HVENDESWH
B. napus[a]	146-174	ILVPYHGWRI SHRTHHQNHG HVENDESWH
Glycine max[a]	196-224	ILVPYHGWRI SHRTHHQHHG HAENDESWH
A. thaliana	126-154	ILVPYHGWRI SHRTHHQNHG HVENDESWV
Brassica napus	117-145	ILVPYHGWRI SHRTHHQNHG HVENDESWV
Glycine max	125-153	ILVPYHGWRI SHRTHHQNHG HIEKDESWV

[a] Plastid sequences

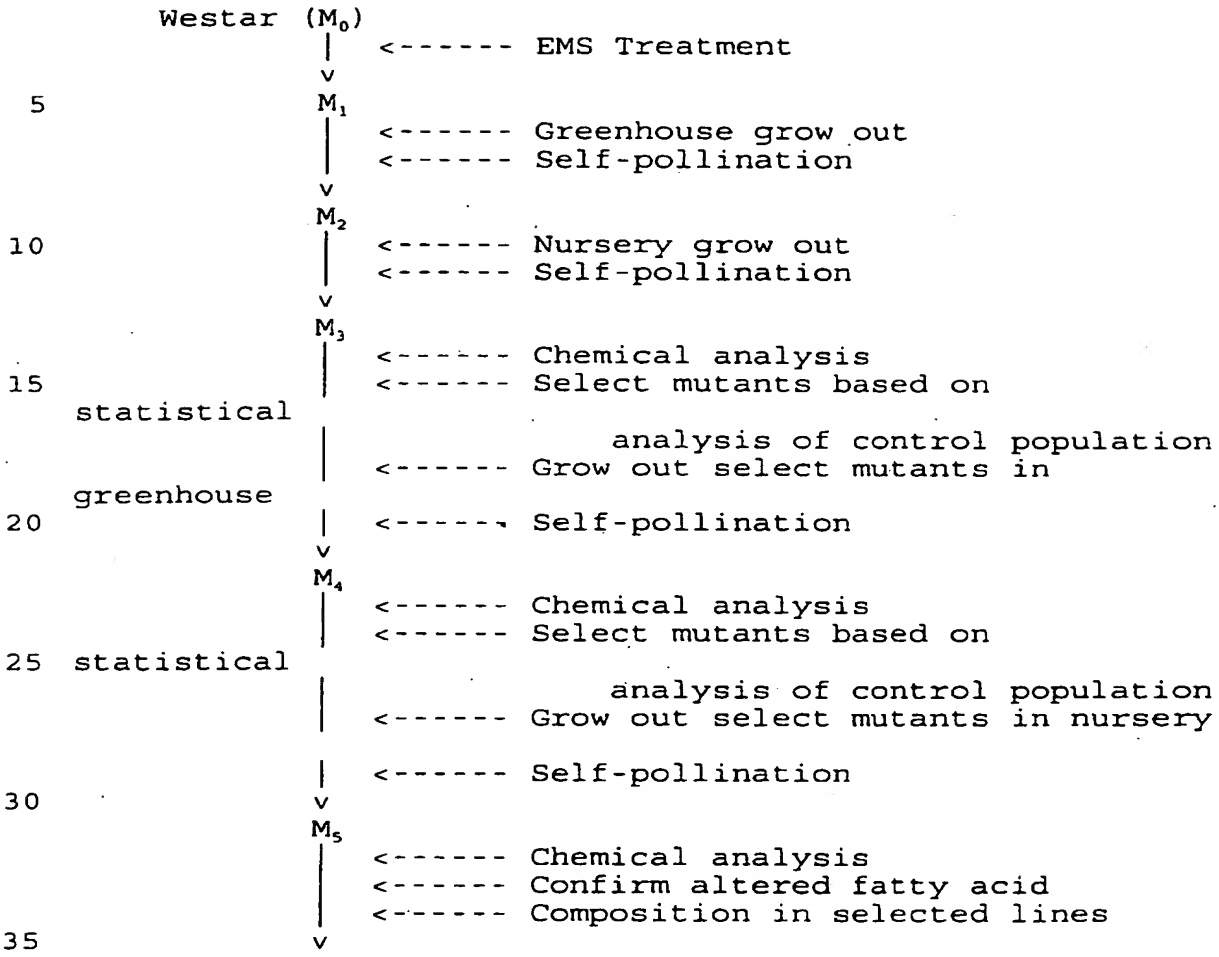
The conservation of amino acid motifs and their relative positions indicates that regions of a delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase that can be mutated in one species to generate a non-functional desaturase can be mutated in the corresponding region from other species to generate a non-functional 12-DES or 15-DES gene product in that species.

Mutations in any of the regions of Tables 1-6 are specifically included within the scope of the invention, provided that such mutation (or mutations) renders the resulting desaturase gene product non-functional, as discussed hereinabove.

A nucleic acid fragment containing a mutant sequence can be generated by techniques known to the skilled artisan. Such techniques include, without limitation, site-directed mutagenesis of wild-type sequences and direct synthesis using automated DNA synthesizers.

A nucleic acid fragment containing a mutant sequence can also be generated by mutagenesis of plant seeds or regenerable plant tissue by, e.g., ethyl methane sulfonate, X-rays or other mutagens. With mutagenesis, mutant plants having the desired fatty acid phenotype in seeds are identified by known techniques and a nucleic acid fragment containing the desired mutation is isolated from genomic DNA or RNA of the mutant line. The site of

SCHEME I



Westar seeds (M_0) were mutagenized with ethylmethanesulfonate (EMS). Westar is a registered Canadian spring variety with canola quality. The fatty acid composition of field-grown Westar, 3.9% $C_{16:0}$, 1.9% $C_{18:0}$, 67.5% $C_{18:1}$, 17.6% $C_{18:2}$, 7.4% $C_{18:3}$, <2% C20:1 + $C_{22:1}$, has remained stable under commercial production, with $<\pm$ 10% deviation, since 1982. The disclosed method may be applied to all oilseed *Brassica* species, and to both Spring and Winter maturing types within each species. Physical mutagens, including but not limited to X-rays,

fatty acid compositions were advanced to the nursery. Following self-pollination, M_5 seed from the field were re-analyzed once again for fatty acid composition. Those lines which remained stable for the selected fatty acids were considered stable mutations.

"Stable mutations" as used herein are defined as M_5 or more advanced lines which maintain a selected altered fatty acid profile for a minimum of three generations, including a minimum of two generations under field conditions, and exceeding established statistical thresholds for a minimum of two generations, as determined by gas chromatographic analysis of a minimum of 10 randomly selected seeds bulked together. Alternatively, stability may be measured in the same way by comparing to subsequent generations. In subsequent generations, stability is defined as having similar fatty acid profiles in the seed as that of the prior or subsequent generation when grown under substantially similar conditions.

The amount of variability for fatty acid content in a seed population is quite significant when single seeds are analyzed. Randomly selected single seeds and a ten seed bulk sample of a commercial variety were compared. Significant variation among the single seeds was detected (Table A). The half-seed technique (Downey, R.K. and B.L. Harvey, Can. J. Plant Sci., 43:271 [1963]) in which one cotyledon of the germinating seed is analyzed for fatty acid composition and the remaining embryo grown into a plant has been very useful to plant breeding work to select individuals in a population for further generation analysis. The large variation seen in the single seed analysis (Table A) is reflected in the half-seed technique.

American Oil Chemists Society (1984) pp. 97-105) with chemical analysis of a bulk seed sample.

Mutation breeding has traditionally produced plants carrying, in addition to the trait of interest, multiple, deleterious traits, e.g., reduced plant vigor and reduced fertility. Such traits may indirectly affect fatty acid composition, producing an unstable mutation; and/or reduce yield, thereby reducing the commercial utility of the invention. To eliminate the occurrence of deleterious mutations and reduce the load of mutations carried by the plant a low mutagen dose was used in the seed treatments to create an LD30 population. This allowed for the rapid selection of single gene mutations for fatty acid traits in agronomic backgrounds which produce acceptable yields.

Other than changes in the fatty acid composition of the seed oil, the mutant lines described here have normal plant phenotype when grown under field conditions, and are commercially useful. "Commercial utility" is defined as having a yield, as measured by total pounds of seed or oil produced per acre, within 15% of the average yield of the starting (M_0) canola variety grown in the same region. To be commercially useful, plant vigor and high fertility are such that the crop can be produced in this yield by farmers using conventional farming equipment, and the oil with altered fatty acid composition can be extracted using conventional crushing and extraction equipment.

The seeds of several different fatty acid lines have been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection and have the following accession numbers.

invention may have from about 2.0% to about 5.0% saturated fatty acids, based on total fatty acid composition of the seeds. In some embodiments, oil obtained from seeds of the invention may have from about 1.0% to about 14.0% linoleic acid, or from about 0.5% to about 10.0% α-linolenic acid.

In one embodiment of the claimed invention, a plant contains both a 12-DES mutation and a 15-DES mutation. Such plants can have a fatty acid composition comprising very high oleic acid and very low alpha-linolenic acid levels. Mutations in 12-DES and 15-DES may be combined in a plant by making a genetic cross between 12-DES and 15-DES single mutant lines. A plant having a mutation in delta-12 fatty acid desaturase is crossed or mated with a second plant having a mutation in delta-15 fatty acid desaturase. Seeds produced from the cross are planted and the resulting plants are selfed in order to obtain progeny seeds. These progeny seeds are then screened in order to identify those seeds carrying both mutant genes.

Alternatively, a line possessing either a 12-DES or a 15-DES mutation can be subjected to mutagenesis to generate a plant or plant line having mutations in both 12-DES and 15-DES. For example, the IMC 129 line has a mutation in the coding region (Glu_{106} to Lys_{106}) of the D form of the microsomal delta-12 desaturase structural gene. Cells (e.g., seeds) of this line can be mutagenized to induce a mutation in a 15-DES gene, resulting in a plant or plant line carrying a mutation in a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene and a mutation in a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene.

Progeny includes descendants of a particular plant or plant line, e.g., seeds developed on an instant plant. Progeny of an instant plant include seeds formed on F_1.

characteristics include, for example, increased seed germination percentage, increased seedling vigor, increased resistance to seedling fungal diseases (damping off, root rot and the like), increased yield, and improved standability.

While the invention is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, certain specific embodiments thereof are described in the general methods and examples set forth below. For example the invention may be applied to all *Brassica* species, including *B. rapa*, *B. juncea*, and *B. hirta*, to produce substantially similar results. It should be understood, however, that these examples are not intended to limit the invention to the particular forms disclosed but, instead the invention is to cover all modifications, equivalents and alternatives falling within the scope of the invention. This includes the use of somaclonal variation; physical or chemical mutagenesis of plant parts; anther, microspore or ovary culture followed by chromosome doubling; or self- or cross-pollination to transmit the fatty acid trait, alone or in combination with other traits, to develop new *Brassica* lines.

EXAMPLE 1

Selection of Low FDA Saturates

Prior to mutagenesis, 30,000 seeds of *B. napus* cv. Westar seeds were preimbibed in 300-seed lots for two hours on wet filter paper to soften the seed coat. The preimbibed seeds were placed in 80 mM ethylmethanesulfonate (EMS) for four hours. Following mutagenesis, the seeds were rinsed three times in distilled water. The seeds were sown in 48-well flats containing Pro-Mix. Sixty-eight percent of the mutagenized seed germinated. The plants were maintained at 25°C/15°C, 14/10 hr day/night conditions in the

plant selections was analyzed in 10-seed bulk samples and the bulk row harvest in 50-seed bulk samples.

Selected M_5 lines were planted in the greenhouse along with Westar controls. The seed was grown as previously described. At flowering the terminal raceme was self-pollinated by bagging. At maturity, selfed M_6 seed was individually harvested from each plant and analyzed in 10-seed bulk samples for fatty acid composition.

Selected M_6 lines were entered into field trials in Eastern Idaho. The four trial locations were selected for the wide variability in growing conditions. The locations included Burley, Tetonia, Lamont and Shelley (Table I). The lines were planted in four 3-meter rows with an 8-inch spacing, each plot was replicated four times. The planting design was determined using a Randomized Complete Block Designed. The commercial cultivar Westar was used as a check cultivar. At maturity the plots were harvested to determine yield. Yield of the entries in the trial was determined by taking the statistical average of the four replications. The Least Significant Difference Test was used to rank the entries in the randomized complete block design.

TABLE I

Trial Locations for Selected Fatty Acid Mutants

LOCATION	SITE CHARACTERIZATIONS
BURLEY	Irrigated. Long season. High temperatures during flowering.
TETONIA	Dryland. Short season. Cool temperatures.
LAMONT	Dryland. Short season. Cool temperatures.
SHELLEY	Irrigated. Medium season. High temperatures during flowering.

The gas chromatograph was set at 180°C for 5.5 minutes, then programmed for a 2°C/minute increase to 212°C, and held at this temperature for 1.5 minutes. Total run time was 23 minutes. Chromatography settings were: Column head pressure - 15 psi, Column flow (He) - 0.7 mL/min., Auxiliary and Column flow - 33 mL/min., Hydrogen flow - 33 mL/min., Air flow - 400 mL/min., Injector temperature - 250°C, Detector temperature - 300°C, Split vent - 1/15.

Table II describes the upper and lower statistical thresholds for each fatty acid of interest.

TABLE II

Statistical Thresholds for Specific Fatty Acids Derived from Control Westar Plantings

	Percent Fatty Acids					
Genotype	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{18:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$	Sats*
M_3 Generation (1 in 10,000 rejection rate)						
Lower	3.3	1.4	--	13.2	5.3	6.0
Upper	4.3	2.5	71.0	21.6	9.9	8.3
M_4 Generation (1 in 800 rejection rate)						
Lower	3.6	0.8	--	12.2	3.2	5.3
Upper	6.3	3.1	76.0	32.4	9.9	11.2
M_5 Generation (1 in 755 rejection rate)						
Lower	2.7	0.9	--	9.6	2.6	4.5
Upper	5.7	2.7	80.3	26.7	9.6	10.0

*Sats=Total Saturate Content

At the M_3 generation, twelve lines exceeded the lower statistical threshold for palmitic acid ($\leq$3.3%). Line W13097.4 had 3.1% palmitic acid and an FDA saturate content of 4.5%. After a cycle in the greenhouse, M_4 seed

TABLE IV

Fatty Acid Composition of A144
Low Palmitic Acid/Low FDA Saturate Line

Genotype[a]	Percent Fatty Acids						
	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{18:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$	Sats[b]	Tot Sat[c]
Individually Self-Pollinated Plants							
A144.1.1	3.2	1.6	64.4	20.5	7.0	4.8	5.9
A144.1.2	3.0	1.5	67.4	18.6	6.3	4.5	5.7
A144.1.3	3.6	1.8	61.4	22.4	7.5	5.2	6.6
A144.1.4	3.2	1.5	64.6	20.9	6.7	4.7	5.8
A144.1.5	3.3	1.7	60.0	23.9	7.9	5.0	6.1
A144.1.6	3.1	1.4	67.3	17.8	6.5	4.6	5.2
A144.1.7	3.1	1.6	67.7	17.4	6.5	4.8	5.4
A144.1.8	3.1	1.8	66.9	18.7	6.1	4.9	5.4
A144.1.9	2.9	1.4	64.3	20.7	7.3	4.4	5.3
A144.1.10	3.1	1.5	62.5	20.4	7.7	4.6	5.6
Average of Individually Self-Pollinated Plants							
A144.1.1-10	3.1	1.6	64.8	20.1	6.9	4.7	5.7
Bulk Analysis of Open-Pollinated Plants							
A144.1B	3.1	1.6	64.8	19.4	7.8	4.7	5.7

[a]Letter and numbers up to second decimal point indicate the plant line. Number after second decimal point indicates an individual plant.

[b]Sat=FDA Saturates

[c]Tot Sat=Total Saturate Content

These reduced levels have remained stable to the M_7 generations in both greenhouse and field conditions. These reduced levels have remained stable to the M_7 generation in multiple location field trails. Over all locations, the self-pollinated plants (A144) averaged 2.9% palmitic acid and FDA saturates of 4.6%. The fatty

TABLE VB

Genetic Studies of Dihaploid Progeny of A144 X A129

Genotype	$C_{16:0}$ Content (%)	Frequency	
		Observed	Expected
p-p-p2-p2-	3.0%	162	143
p+p+p2-p2-	3.4%	236	286
p+p+p2+p2+	3.8%	175	143

EXAMPLE 2

An additional low FDA saturate line, designated A149.3 (ATCC 40814), was also produced by the method of Example 1. A 50-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 3.6%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.4%, $C_{18:1}$ - 65.5%, $C_{18:2}$ - 18.3%, $C_{18:3}$ - 8.2%, FDA Sats - 5.0%, Total Sats - 5.9%. This line has also stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition to the M_5 generation. In a multiple location replicated trial the yield of A149 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

EXAMPLE 3

An additional low palmitic acid and low FDA saturate line, designated M3094.4 (ATCC 75023), was also produced by the method of Example 1. A 10-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 2.7%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.6%, $C_{18:1}$ - 66.6%, $C_{18:2}$ - 20.0%, $C_{18:3}$ - 6.1%, $C_{20:1}$ - 1.4%, $C_{22:1}$ - 0.0%, FDA Saturate - 4.3%, Total Saturates - 5.2%. This line has stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition to the M_5 generation. In a single replicated trial the yield of M3094 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar.

M3094.4 was crossed to A144, a low palmitic acid mutation (Example 1) for allelism studies. Fatty acid composition of the F_2 seed showed the two lines to be

> 7.0%) makes up one-quarter of the total population analyzed. The high palmitic acid mutation was controlled by one single gene mutation.

TABLE VIB

Genetic Studies of M3007 X A144

Genotype	$C_{16:0}$ Content (%)	Frequency	
		Observed	Expected
p-p-/p-hp-	<7.0	151	142
hp-hp-	>7.0	39	47

An additional M_3 line, W4773.7, contained 4.5% palmitic acid. Selfed progenies of this line, since designated A200.7 (ATCC 40816), continued to exceed the upper statistical threshold for high palmitic acid in both the M_4 and M_5 generations with palmitic acid levels of 6.3% and 6.0%, respectively. The fatty acid composition of this high palmitic acid mutant, which was stable to the M_7 generation under both field and greenhouse conditions, is summarized in Table VII.

TABLE VII

Fatty Acid Composition of a High Palmitic Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

Genotype	Percent Fatty Acids					
	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{18:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$	Sats*
Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0
W4773.7 (M_3)	4.5	2.9	63.5	19.9	7.1	9.3
M4773.7.7 (M_4)	6.3	2.6	59.3	20.5	5.6	10.8
A200.7.7 (M_5)	6.0	1.9	60.2	20.4	7.3	9.4

*Sats=Total Saturate Content

was genetically different from the low palmitic acid mutations found in A144 and M3094.

TABLE VIIIB

Genetic Studies of M3052 X A144

Genotype	$C_{16:0}$ + $C_{18:0}$ Content (%)	Frequency	
		Observed	Expected
p-p-s-s-	<4.9%	87	77
p-p-s-s-/p+p+s-s-	4.0%<X<5.6%	152	154
p+p+s+s+	>5.6%	70	77

An additional M_5 line, M3051.10, contained 0.9% and 1.1% stearic acid in the greenhouse and field respectively. A ten-seed analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 3.9%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.1%, $C_{18:1}$ - 61.7%, $C_{18:2}$ - 23.0%, $C_{18:3}$ - 7.6%, FDA saturates - 5.0%, Total Saturates - 5.8%. In a single location replicated yield trial M3051.10 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar. M3051.10 was crossed to M3052.1 for allelism studies. Fatty acid composition of the F_2 seed showed the two lines to be allelic. The mutational events in M3051.10 and M3052.1 although different in origin were in the same gene.

An additional M_5 line, M3054.7, contained 1.0% and 1.3% stearic acid in the greenhouse and field respectively. A ten-seed analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 4.0%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.0%, $C_{18:1}$ - 66.5%, $C_{18:2}$ - 18:4%, $C_{18:3}$ - 7.2%, saturates - 5.0%, Total Saturates - 6.1%. In a single location replicated yield trial M3054.7 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar. M3054.7 was crossed to M3052.1 for allelism studies.

TABLE IX

Fatty Acid Composition of a High Oleic Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

	Percent Fatty Acids					
Genotype	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{18:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$	Sats
Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0
W7608.3 (M_3)	3.9	2.4	71.2	12.7	6.1	7.6
W7608.3.5 (M_4)	3.9	2.0	78.8	7.7	3.9	7.3
A129.5.3 (M_5)	3.8	2.3	75.6	9.5	4.9	7.6

Sats=Total Saturate Content

TABLE X

Fatty Acid Composition of a Mutant High Oleic Acid Line at Different Field Locations in Idaho

	Percent Fatty Acids					
Location	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{18:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$	Sats
Burley	3.3	2.1	77.5	8.1	6.0	6.5
Tetonia	3.5	3.4	77.8	6.5	4.7	8.5
Lamont	3.4	1.9	77.8	7.4	6.5	6.3
Shelley	3.3	2.6	80.0	5.7	4.5	7.7

Sats=Total Saturate Content

The genetic relationship of the high oleic acid mutation A129 to other oleic desaturases was demonstrated in crosses made to commercial canola cultivars and a low linolenic acid mutation. A129 was crossed to the commercial cultivar Global ($C_{16:0}$ - 4.5%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.5%, $C_{18:1}$ - 62.9%, $C_{18:2}$ - 20.0%, $C_{18:3}$ - 7.3%). Approximately 200 F_2 individuals were analyzed for fatty acid composition. The results are summarized in Table XB. The segregation fit 1:2:1 ratio suggesting a single co-dominant gene

An additional high oleic acid line, designated A128.3, was also produced by the disclosed method. A 50-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 3.5%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.8%, $C_{18:1}$ - 77.3%, $C_{18:2}$ - 9.0%, $C_{18:3}$ - 5.6%, FDA Sats - 5.3%, Total Sats - 6.4%. This line also stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition to the M_7 generation. In multiple locations replicated yield trials, A128 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

A129 was crossed to A128.3 for allelism studies. Fatty acid composition of the F_2 seed showed the two lines to be allelic. The mutational events in A129 and A128.3 although different in origin were in the same gene.

An additional high oleic acid line, designated M3028.-10 (ATCC 75026), was also produced by the disclosed method in Example 1. A 10-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 3.5%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.8%, $C_{18:1}$ - 77.3%, $C_{18:2}$ - 9.0%, $C_{18:3}$ - 5.6%, FDA Saturates - 5.3%, Total Saturates - 6.4%. In a single location replicated yield trial M3028.10 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

EXAMPLE 7

Low Linoleic Acid Canola

In the studies of Example 1, at the M_3 generation, 80 lines exceeded the lower statistical threshold for linoleic acid ($\leq$ 13.2%). Line W12638.8 had 9.4% linoleic acid. At the M_4 and M_5 generations, its selfed progenies [W12638.8, since designated A133.1 (ATCC 40812)] continued to exceed the statistical threshold for low $C_{18:2}$ with linoleic acid levels of 10.2% and 8.4%, respectively. The fatty acid composition of this low linoleic acid mutant, which was stable to the M_7 generation under both field and greenhouse conditions, is

generations, its selfed progenies [W14749.8, since designated M3032 (ATCC 75021)] continued to exceed the statistical threshold for low $C_{18:3}$ with linolenic acid levels of 2.7% and 2.3%, respectively, and for a low sum of linolenic and linoleic acids with totals of 11.8% and 12.5% respectively. The fatty acid composition of this low linolenic acid plus linoleic acid mutant, which was stable to the M_5 generation under both field and greenhouse conditions, is summarized in Table XII. In a single location replicated yield trial M3032 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar (Westar).

TABLE XII

Fatty Acid Composition of a Low Linolenic Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

	Percent Fatty Acids					
Genotype	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{18:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$	Sats
Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0
W14749.8 (M_3)	4.0	2.5	69.4	15.0	5.3	6.5
M3032.8 (M_4)	3.9	2.4	77.9	9.1	2.7	6.4
M3032.1 (M_5)	3.5	2.8	80.0	10.2	2.3	6.5

Sats=Total Saturate Content

EXAMPLE 9

The high oleic acid mutation of A129 was introduced into different genetic backgrounds by crossing and selecting for fatty acid and agronomic characteristics. A129 (now renamed IMC 129) was crossed to Legend, a commercial spring *Brassica napus* variety. Legend has the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 3.8%, $C_{18:0}$ - 2.1%, $C_{18:1}$ - 63.1%, $C_{18:2}$ - 17.8%, $C_{18:3}$ - 9.3%.

individual selections was determined from the harvested plots.

Fifteen F_6 lines having the high oleic fatty profile of IMC 129 and the desired agronomic characteristics were advanced to the greenhouse to increase seed for field trialing. At flowering the F_6 plants were self-pollinated. At maturity the F_7 seed was harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition. Three F_7 seed lines which had fatty acid profiles most similar to IMC 129 (Table XIII) were selected and planted in the field as selfing rows, the remaining seed was bulked together for yield trialing. The high oleic fatty acid profile of IMC 129 was maintained through seven generations of selection for fatty acid and agronomic traits in an agronomic background of *Brassica napus* which was different from the parental lines. Thus, the genetic trait from IMC 129 for high oleic acid can be used in the development of new high oleic *Brassica napus* varieties.

TABLE XIII

Fatty Acid Composition of Advanced Breeding Generation with High Oleic Acid Trait (IMC 129 X Legend)

F_7 Selections of 89B60303	Fatty Acid Composition(%)				
	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{16:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$
93.06194	3.8	1.6	78.3	7.7	4.4
93.06196	4.0	2.8	77.3	6.8	3.4
93.06198	3.7	2.2	78.0	7.4	4.2

The high oleic acid trait of IMC 129 was also introduced into a different genetic background by combining crossing and selection methods with the generation of dihaploid populations from the microspores of the F_1 hybrids. IMC 129 was crossed to Hyola 41, a commercial spring *Brassica napus* variety. Hyola 41 has the following fatty acid composition: $C_{16:0}$ - 3.8%, $C_{18:0}$ -

TABLE XIV

Fatty Acid Composition of Advanced Dihaploid Breeding Generation with High Oleic Acid Trait (IMC 129 X Hyola41)

DH5 of 90DU.146 at Multiple Locations	Fatty Acid Composition(%)				
	$C_{16:0}$	$C_{18:0}$	$C_{18:1}$	$C_{18:2}$	$C_{18:3}$
Aberdeen	3.7	2.6	75.4	8.1	7.2
Blackfoot	3.3	2.4	75.5	8.8	7.5
Idaho Falls	3.7	3.1	75.0	7.5	8.1
Rexberg	3.9	3.7	75.3	7.0	6.5
Swan Valley	3.5	3.4	74.5	7.0	7.3
Lamont	3.9	2.8	72.0	10.1	8.4

EXAMPLE 10

Canola Lines Q508 and Q4275

Seeds of the *B. napus* line IMC-129 were mutagenized with methyl N-nitrosoguanidine (MNNG). The MNNG treatment consisted of three parts: pre-soak, mutagen application, and wash. A 0.05M Sorenson's phosphate buffer was used to maintain pre-soak and mutagen treatment pH at 6.1. Two hundred seeds were treated at one time on filter paper (Whatman #3M) in a petri dish (100mm x 15mm). The seeds were pre-soaked in 15 mls of 0.05M Sorenson's buffer, pH 6.1, under continued agitation for two hours. At the end of the pre-soak period, the buffer was removed from the plate.

A 10mM concentration of MNNG in 0.05M Sorenson's buffer, pH 6.1, was prepared prior to use. Fifteen ml of 10m MNNG was added to the seeds in each plate. The seeds were incubated at 22°C±3°C in the dark under constant agitation for four (4) hours. At the end of the incubation period, the mutagen solution was removed.

The seeds were washed with three changes of distilled water at 10 minute intervals. The fourth wash

M_4 generation Q508 plants had poor agronomic qualities in the field compared to Westar. Typical plants were slow growing relative to Westar, lacked early vegetative vigor, were short in stature, tended to be chlorotic and had short pods. The yield of Q508 was very low compared to Westar.

The M_4 generation Q508 plants in the greenhouse tended to be reduced in vigor compared to Westar. However, Q508 yields in the greenhouse were greater than Q508 yields in the field.

TABLE XVI

Fatty Acid Composition of Seed Oil
from Greenhouse-Grown Q508, IMC 129 and Westar.

Line	16:0	18:0	18:1	18:2	18:3	FDA Sats
IMC 129[a]	4.0	2.4	77.7	7.8	4.2	6.4
Westar[b]	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	>5.8
Q508[c]	3.9	2.1	84.9	2.4	2.9	6.0

[a]Average of 50 self-pollinated plants
[b]Data from Example 1
[c]Average of 50 self-pollinated plants

Nine other M4 high-oleic low-linoleic lines were also identified: Q3603, Q3733, Q4249, Q6284, Q6601, Q6761, Q7415, Q4275, and Q6676. Some of these lines had good agronomic characteristics and an elevated oleic acid level in seeds of about 80% to about 84%.

Q4275 was crossed to the variety Cyclone. After selfing for seven generations, mature seed was harvested from 93GS34-179, a progeny line of the Q4275 Cyclone cross. Referring to Table XVII, fatty acid composition of a bulk seed sample shows that 93GS34 retained the seed fatty acid composition of Q4275. 93GS34-179 also maintained agronomically desirable characteristics.

No high oleic (>80%) individuals were recovered with good agronomic type.

A portion of the F_2 seed of the 92EF population was planted in the greenhouse to analyze the genetics of the Q508 line. F_3 seed was analyzed from 380 F2 individuals. The $C_{18:1}$ levels of F_3 seed from the greenhouse experiment is depicted in Figure 1. The data were tested against the hypothesis that Q508 contains two mutant genes that are semi-dominant and additive: the original IMC 129 mutation as well as one additional mutation. The hypothesis also assumes that homozygous Q508 has greater than 85% oleic acid and homozygous Westar has 62-67% oleic acid. The possible genotypes at each gene in a cross of Q508 by Westar may be designated as:

AA = Westar Fad2^a
BB = Westar Fad2^b
aa = Q508 Fad2^{a-}
bb = Q508 Fad2^{b-}

Assuming independent segregation, a 1:4:6:4:1 ratio of phenotypes is expected. The phenotypes of heterozygous plants are assumed to be indistinguishable and, thus, the data were tested for fit to a 1:14:1 ratio of homozygous Westar: heterozygous plants: homozygous Q508.

Phenotypic Ratio	# of Westar Alleles	Genotype
1	4	AABB(Westar)
4	3	AABb,AaBB,AABb,AaBB
6	2	AaBb,AAbb,AaBb,AaBb,aaBB,AaBb
4	1	Aabb,aaBb,Aabb,aaBb
1	0	aabb (Q508)

Using Chi-square analysis, the oleic acid data fit a 1:14:1 ratio. It was concluded that Q508 differs from

EXAMPLE 11

Leaf and Root Fatty Acid Profiles of Canola Lines IMC-129, Q508, and Westar

Plants of Q508, IMC 129 and Westar were grown in the greenhouse. Mature leaves, primary expanding leaves, petioles and roots were harvested at the 6-8 leaf stage, frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -70°C. Lipid extracts were analyzed by GLC as described in Example 1. The fatty acid profile data are shown in Table XIX.

The data in Table XIX indicate that total leaf lipids in Q508 are higher in $C_{18:1}$ content than the $C_{18:2}$ plus $C_{18:3}$ content. The reverse is true for Westar and IMC 129. The difference in total leaf lipids between Q508 and IMC 129 is consistent with the hypothesis that a second Fad2 gene is mutated in Q508.

The $C_{16:3}$ content in the total lipid fraction was about the same for all three lines, suggesting that the plastid FadC gene product was not affected by the Q508 mutations. To confirm that the FadC gene was not mutated, chloroplast lipids were separated and analyzed. No changes in chloroplast $C_{16:1}$, $C_{16:2}$ or $C_{16:3}$ fatty acids were detected in the three lines. The similarity in plastid leaf lipids among Q508, Westar and IMC 129 is consistent with the hypothesis that the second mutation in Q508 affects a microsomal Fad2 gene and not a plastid FadC gene.

and IMC 129 when RNA from leaf tissue was used as template.

The G to A mutation at nucleotide 316 was confirmed by sequencing several independent clones containing fragments amplified directly from genomic DNA of IMC 129 and Westar. These results eliminated the possibility of a rare mutation introduced during reverse transcription and PCR in the RT-PCR protocol. It was concluded that the IMC 129 mutant is due to a single base transversion at nucleotide 316 in the coding region of the D gene of rapeseed microsomal delta 12-desaturase.

A single base transition from T to A at nucleotide 515 of the F gene was detected in Q508 compared to the Westar sequence. The mutation changes the codon at this position from CTC to CAC, resulting in the non-conservative substitution of a non-polar residue, leucine, for a polar residue, histidine, in the resulting gene product. No mutations were found in the F gene sequence of IMC 129 compared to the F gene sequence of Westar.

These data support the conclusion that a mutation in a delta-12 desaturase gene sequence results in alterations in the fatty acid profile of plants containing such a mutated gene. Moreover, the data show that when a plant line or species contains two delta-12 desaturase loci, the fatty acid profile of an individual having two mutated loci differs from the fatty acid profile of an individual having one mutated locus.

The mutation in the D gene of IMC 129 and Q508 mapped to a region having a conserved amino acid motif (His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His) found in cloned delta-12 and delta-15 membrane bound-desaturases (Table XX).

In vitro transcription and translation analysis showed that a peptide of about 46 kD was made. This is the expected size of both the D gene product and the F gene product, based on sum of the deduced amino acid sequence of each gene and the cotranslational addition of a microsomal membrane peptide.

These results rule out the possibility that non-sense or frameshift mutations, resulting in a truncated polypeptide gene product, are present in either the mutant D gene or the mutant F gene. The data, in conjunction with the data of Example 12, support the conclusion that the mutations in Q508 and IMC 129 are in delta-12 fatty acid desaturase structural genes encoding desaturase enzymes, rather than in regulatory genes.

EXAMPLE 14

Development of Gene-Specific PCR Markers

Based on the single base change in the mutant D gene of IMC 129 described in above, two 5' PCR primers were designed. The nucleotide sequence of the primers differed only in the base (G for Westar and A for IMC 129) at the 3' end. The primers allow one to distinguish between mutant fad2-D and wild-type Fad2-D alleles in a DNA-based PCR assay. Since there is only a single base difference in the 5' PCR primers, the PCR assay is very sensitive to the PCR conditions such as annealing temperature, cycle number, amount, and purity of DNA templates used. Assay conditions have been established that distinguish between the mutant gene and the wild type gene using genomic DNA from IMC 129 and wild type plants as templates. Conditions may be further optimized by varying PCR parameters, particularly with variable crude DNA samples. A PCR assay distinguishing the single base mutation in IMC 129 from the wild type gene along with fatty acid composition analysis provides a means to

mutant Fad3 gene. The phaseolin sequence is described in Doyle et al., (1986) J. Biol. Chem. 261:9228-9238) and Slightom et al., (1983) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80:1897-1901.

The appropriate plasmids were engineered and transferred separately to *Agrobacterium* strain LBA4404. Each engineered strain was used to infect 5 mm segments of hypocotyl explants from Westar seeds by cocultivation. Infected hypocotyls were transferred to callus medium and, subsequently, to regeneration medium. Once discernable stems formed from the callus, shoots were excised and transferred to elongation medium. The elongated shoots were cut, dipped in Rootone™, rooted on an agar medium and transplanted to potting soil to obtain fertile T1 plants. T2 seeds were obtained by selfing the resulting T1 plants.

Fatty acid analysis of T2 seeds was carried out as described above. The results are summarized in Table XXI. Of the 40 transformants obtained using the pIMC110 plasmid, 17 plants demonstrated wild type fatty acid profiles and 16 demonstrated overexpression. A proportion of the transformants are expected to display an overexpression phenotype when a functioning gene is transformed in sense orientation into plants.

Of the 307 transformed plants having the pIMC205 gene, none exhibited a fatty acid composition indicative of overexpression. This result indicates that the mutant fad3 gene product is non-functional, since some of the transformants would have exhibited an overexpression phenotype if the gene product were functional.

skilled in the art without deviating from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

```
ATG GGT GCA GGT GGA AGA ATG CAA GTG TCT CCT CCC TCC AAG AAG TCT        48
Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser
  1               5                  10                  15

GAA ACC GAC ACC ATC AAG CGC GTA CCC TGC GAG ACA CCG CCC TTC ACT        96
Glu Thr Asp Thr Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Phe Thr
            20                  25                  30

GTC GGA GAA CTC AAG AAA GCA ATC CCA CCG CAC TGT TTC AAA CGC TCG       144
Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser
        35                  40                  45

ATC CCT CGC TCT TTC TCC TAC CTC ATC TGG GAC ATC ATC ATA GCC TCC       192
Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile Ile Ile Ala Ser
    50                  55                  60

TGC TTC TAC TAC NTC GCC ACC ACT TAC TTC CCT CTC CTC CCT CAC CCT       240
Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Xaa Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro His Pro
65                  70                  75                  80

CTC TCC TAC TTC GCC TGG CCT CTC TAC TGG GCC TGC CAA GGG TGC GTC       288
Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val
                85                  90                  95

CTA ACC GGC GTC TGG GTC ATA GCC CAC GAA TGC GGC CAC CAC GCC TTC       336
Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His His Ala Phe
            100                 105                 110

AGC GAC TAC CAG TGG CTT GAC GAC ACC GTC GGT CTC ATC TTC CAC TCC       384
Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser
        115                 120                 125

TTC CTC CTC GTC CCT TAC TTC TCC TGG AAG TAC AGT CAT CGC AGC CAC       432
Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Ser His
    130                 135                 140

CAT TCC AAC ACT GGC TCC CTC GAG AGA GAC GAA GTG TTT GTC CCC AAG       480
His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys
145                 150                 155                 160

AAG AAG TCA GAC ATC AAG TGG TAC GGC AAG TAC CTC AAC AAC CCT TTG       528
Lys Lys Ser Asp Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu
                165                 170                 175

GGA CGC ACC GTG ATG TTA ACG GTT CAG TTC ACT CTC GGC TGG CCG TTG       576
Gly Arg Thr Val Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu
            180                 185                 190

TAC TTA GCC TTC AAC GTC TCG GGA AGA CCT TAC GAC GGC GGC TTC CGT       624
Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Arg
        195                 200                 205

TGC CAT TTC CAC CCC AAC GCT CCC ATC TAC AAC GAC CGC GAG CGT CTC       672
Cys His Phe His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu
    210                 215                 220

CAG ATA TAC ATC TCC GAC GCT GGC ATC CTC GCC GTC TGC TAC GGT CTC       720
Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu
225                 230                 235                 240

TTC CGT TAC GCC GCC GGC CAG GGA GTG GCC TCG ATG GTC TGC TTC TAC       768
Phe Arg Tyr Ala Ala Gly Gln Gly Val Ala Ser Met Val Cys Phe Tyr
                245                 250                 255

GGA GTC CCG CTT CTG ATT GTC AAT GGT TTC CTC GTG TTG ATC ACT TAC       816
Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Tyr
            260                 265                 270
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His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys
145                 150                 155                 160

Lys Lys Ser Asp Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu
                165                 170                 175

Gly Arg Thr Val Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu
            180                 185                 190

Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Arg
        195                 200                 205

Cys His Phe His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu
    210                 215                 220

Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu
225                 230                 235                 240

Phe Arg Tyr Ala Ala Gly Gln Gly Val Ala Ser Met Val Cys Phe Tyr
                245                 250                 255

Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Tyr
            260                 265                 270

Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp
        275                 280                 285

Asp Trp Phe Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile
    290                 295                 300

Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His
305                 310                 315                 320

Pro Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala
                325                 330                 335

Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro Val
            340                 345                 350

Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro
        355                 360                 365

Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu
    370                 375                 380
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 1155 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: Brassica napus

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: IMC129

(ix) FEATURE:
(D) OTHER INFORMATION: G to A transversion mutation at nucleotide 316 of the D form.

```
TTG CAG CAC ACG CAT CCT TCC CTG CCT CAC TAC GAT TCG TCC GAG TGG        864
Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp
        275                 280                 285

GAT TGG TTC AGG GGA GCT TTG GCT ACC GTT GAC AGA GAC TAC GGA ATC        912
Asp Trp Phe Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile
    290                 295                 300

TTG AAC AAG GTC TTC CAC AAT ATT ACC GAC ACG CAC GTG GCC CAT CAT        960
Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His
305                 310                 315                 320

CCG TTC TCC ACG ATG CCG CAT TAT CAC GCG ATG GAA GCT ACC AAG GCG       1008
Pro Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala
                325                 330                 335

ATA AAG CCG ATA CTG GGA GAG TAT TAT CAG TTC GAT GGG ACG CCG GTG       1056
Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro Val
            340                 345                 350

GTT AAG GCG ATG TGG AGG GAG GCG AAG GAG TGT ATC TAT GTG GAA CCG       1104
Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro
        355                 360                 365

GAC AGG CAA GGT GAG AAG AAA GGT GTG TTC TGG TAC AAC AAT AAG TTA T     1153
Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu
    370                 375                 380

GA                                                                    1155
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

```
Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser
  1                 5                  10                  15

Glu Thr Asp Thr Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Phe Thr
             20                  25                  30

Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser
         35                  40                  45

Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile Ile Ile Ala Ser
     50                  55                  60

Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Xaa Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro His Pro
 65                  70                  75                  80

Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val
                 85                  90                  95

Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val Ile Ala His Lys Cys Gly His His Ala Phe
            100                 105                 110

Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser
        115                 120                 125

Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Ser His
    130                 135                 140
```

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

```
ATG GGT GCA GGT GGA AGA ATG CAA GTG TCT CCT CCC TCC AAA AAG TCT          48
Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser
 1               5                  10                  15

GAA ACC GAC AAC ATC AAG CGC GTA CCC TGC GAG ACA CCG CCC TTC ACT          96
Glu Thr Asp Asn Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Phe Thr
            20                  25                  30

GTC GGA GAA CTC AAG AAA GCA ATC CCA CCG CAC TGT TTC AAA CGC TCG         144
Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser
        35                  40                  45

ATC CCT CGC TCT TTC TCC TAC CTC ATC TGG GAC ATC ATC ATA GCC TCC         192
Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile Ile Ile Ala Ser
    50                  55                  60

TGC TTC TAC TAC GTC GCC ACC ACT TAC TTC CCT CTC CTC CCT CAC CCT         240
Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro His Pro
65                  70                  75                  80

CTC TCC TAC TTC GCC TGG CCT CTC TAC TGG GCC TGC CAG GGC TGC GTC         288
Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val
                85                  90                  95

CTA ACC GGC GTC TGG GTC ATA GCC CAC GAG TGC GGC CAC CAC GCC TTC         336
Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His His Ala Phe
            100                 105                 110

AGC GAC TAC CAG TGG CTG GAC GAC ACC GTC GGC CTC ATC TTC CAC TCC         384
Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser
        115                 120                 125

TTC CTC CTC GTC CCT TAC TTC TCC TGG AAG TAC AGT CAT CGA CGC CAC         432
Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Arg His
    130                 135                 140

CAT TCC AAC ACT GGC TCC CTC GAG AGA GAC GAA GTG TTT GTC CCC AAG         480
His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys
145                 150                 155                 160

AAG AAG TCA GAC ATC AAG TGG TAC GGC AAG TAC CTC AAC AAC CCT TTG         528
Lys Lys Ser Asp Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu
                165                 170                 175

GGA CGC ACC GTG ATG TTA ACG GTT CAG TTC ACT CTC GGC TGG CCT TTG         576
Gly Arg Thr Val Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu
            180                 185                 190

TAC TTA GCC TTC AAC GTC TCG GGG AGA CCT TAC GAC GGC GGC TTC GCT         624
Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Ala
        195                 200                 205

TGC CAT TTC CAC CCC AAC GCT CCC ATC TAC AAC GAC CGC GAG CGT CTC         672
Cys His Phe His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu
    210                 215                 220

CAG ATA TAC ATC TCC GAC GCT GGC ATC CTC GCC GTC TGC TAC GGT CTC         720
Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu
225                 230                 235                 240

TAC CGC TAC GCT GCT GTC CAA GGA GTT GCC TCG ATG GTC TGC TTC TAC         768
Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Ala Val Gln Gly Val Ala Ser Met Val Cys Phe Tyr
                245                 250                 255

GGA GTT CCG CTT CTG ATT GTC AAT GGG TTC TTA GTT TTG ATC ACT TAC         816
Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Tyr
            260                 265                 270
```

```
His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys
145                 150                 155                 160

Lys Lys Ser Asp Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu
                165                 170                 175

Gly Arg Thr Val Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu
            180                 185                 190

Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Ala
        195                 200                 205

Cys His Phe His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu
    210                 215                 220

Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu
225                 230                 235                 240

Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Ala Val Gln Gly Val Ala Ser Met Val Cys Phe Tyr
                245                 250                 255

Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Tyr
            260                 265                 270

Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp
        275                 280                 285

Asp Trp Leu Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile
    290                 295                 300

Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His
305                 310                 315                 320

Leu Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala
                325                 330                 335

Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Leu His Gly Thr Pro Val
            340                 345                 350

Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro
        355                 360                 365

Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu
    370                 375                 380
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 1155 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: Brassica napus

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: Q508

(ix) FEATURE:
(D) OTHER INFORMATION: T to A transversion mutation at nucleotide 515 of the F form.

```
TTG CAG CAC ACG CAT CCT TCC CTG CCT CAC TAT GAC TCG TCT GAG TGG        864
Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp
        275                 280                 285

GAT TGG TTG AGG GGA GCT TTG GCC ACC GTT GAC AGA GAC TAC GGA ATC        912
Asp Trp Leu Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile
    290                 295                 300

TTG AAC AAG GTC TTC CAC AAT ATC ACG GAC ACG CAC GTG GCG CAT CAC        960
Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His
305                 310                 315                 320

CTG TTC TCG ACC ATG CCG CAT TAT CAT GCG ATG GAA GCT ACG AAG GCG       1008
Leu Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala
                325                 330                 335

ATA AAG CCG ATA CTG GGA GAG TAT TAT CAG TTG CAT GGG ACG CCG GTG       1056
Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Leu His Gly Thr Pro Val
            340                 345                 350

GTT AAG GCG ATG TGG AGG GAG GCG AAG GAG TGT ATC TAT GTG GAA CCG       1104
Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro
        355                 360                 365

GAC AGG CAA GGT GAG AAG AAA GGT GTG TTC TGG TAC AAC AAT AAG TTA T     1153
Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu
    370                 375                 380

GA                                                                    1155
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

```
Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser
  1                 5                  10                  15

Glu Thr Asp Asn Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Phe Thr
             20                  25                  30

Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser
         35                  40                  45

Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile Ile Ile Ala Ser
     50                  55                  60

Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro His Pro
 65                  70                  75                  80

Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val
                 85                  90                  95

Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His His Ala Phe
            100                 105                 110

Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser
        115                 120                 125

Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Arg His
    130                 135                 140
```

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, wherein said gene is effective for altering fatty acid composition in *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* seeds and wherein said sequence includes said at least one mutation.

2. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said sequence comprises a full-length coding sequence of said gene.

3. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said mutant desaturase gene encodes a microsomal gene product.

4. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said at least one mutation comprises a mutation in a region of said desaturase gene encoding a His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His amino acid motif.

5. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 4, wherein said at least one mutation comprises a non-conservative amino acid substitution in said region.

6. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 5, wherein said at least one mutation comprises the sequence His-Lys-Cys-Gly-His.

7. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said mutant desaturase gene is from a *Brassica napus* plant.

8. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said gene is the D form of a *Brassicaceae* microsomal gene.

16. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 15, wherein said sequence comprises a full-length coding sequence of said gene.

17. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 15, wherein said at least one mutation comprises a mutation in a region of said desaturase gene encoding a His-Asp-Cys-Gly-His amino acid motif.

18. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 15, wherein said mutant desaturase gene is from a *Brassica napus* plant.

19. A *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* plant containing a sequence of at least 10 nucleotides from a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif and wherein said mutation confers an altered fatty acid composition in seeds of said plant.

20. The plant of claim 19, wherein said plant contains a full-length coding sequence of said mutant gene.

21. The plant of claim 19, wherein said motif comprises the sequence His-Asp-Cys-Gly-His.

22. The plant of claim 19, wherein said mutant desaturase gene is from a *Brassica napus* plant.

23. The plant of claim 19, wherein said plant is a *Brassica napus* plant.

24. A *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* plant containing:

29. A vegetable oil extracted from seeds produced by the plant of claim 19.

30. The oil of claim 29, wherein said oil has, following crushing and extraction of said seeds, from about 0.5% to about 10% α-linolenic acid based on total fatty acid composition.

31. A vegetable oil extracted from seeds produced by the plant of claim 24.

32. A vegetable oil extracted from seeds produced by the plant of claim 25.

33. A method for producing a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* plant line, comprising the steps of:

a) inducing mutagenesis in cells of a starting variety of a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* species;

b) obtaining one or more progeny plants from said cells;

c) identifying at least one of said progeny plant that contains a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif; and

d) producing said plant line from said at least one progeny plant by self- or cross-pollination, said plant line having said at least one delta-12 gene mutation.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein said plant line produces seeds yielding an oil having a stabilized linoleic acid content from about 1% to about 14%.

e) inducing mutagenesis in cells of said plant line;

f) obtaining one or more progeny plants from said plant line cells;

g) identifying at least one of said plant line progeny plants that contains a second delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said second gene mutation in a region other than a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif; and

h) producing a second plant line from said at least one plant line progeny plant by self- or cross-pollination, said second plant line having said first delta-12 gene mutation and said second delta-12 gene mutation.

41. A method for producing a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* plant line, comprising the steps of:

a) inducing mutagenesis in cells of a starting variety of a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* species;

b) obtaining one or more progeny plants from said cells;

c) identifying at least one of said progeny plants that contains a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif; and

d) producing said plant line from said at least one progeny plant by self- or cross-pollination, said plant line having said delta-15 gene mutation.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internauonal application No.
PCT/US96/20090

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	TOPFER et al. Modification of Plant Lipid Synthesis. SCIENCE, Vol. 268, 05 May 1995, pages 681-686.	1-9, 10-14, 19-25 and 33-41
Y	SCARTH et al. STELLAR LOW LINOLENIC -HIGH LINOLEIC ACID SUMMER RAPE. Can. J. Plant Sci. Apr. 1988, Vol. 68, pages 509-511.	10-14, 19-25 and 26-32
Y	US 4,948,811 A (SPINNER et al.) 14 August 1990, columns 1-8.	26-32
Y	US 5,387,758 A (WONG et al.) 07 February 1995, columns 2-24, especially column 11, line 25 to column 24, line 26.	10-41
Y	WO 93/12245 A1 (E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY) 10 June 1993, pages 1-163, especially pages 25 to 85.	1-41